

Docket No.: 4978-0101PUS1  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Kazuo NISHIKAWA et al.

Application No.: 10/510,210

Confirmation No.: 4408

Filed: November 17, 2006

Art Unit: 1657

For: METHOD OF ESTIMATING ELIMINATION  
OF MICROORGANISMS AND APPARATUS  
FOR ESTIMATING ELIMINATION OF  
MICROORGANISMS

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Examiner: V. Afremova

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 9, 2009

Madam:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.